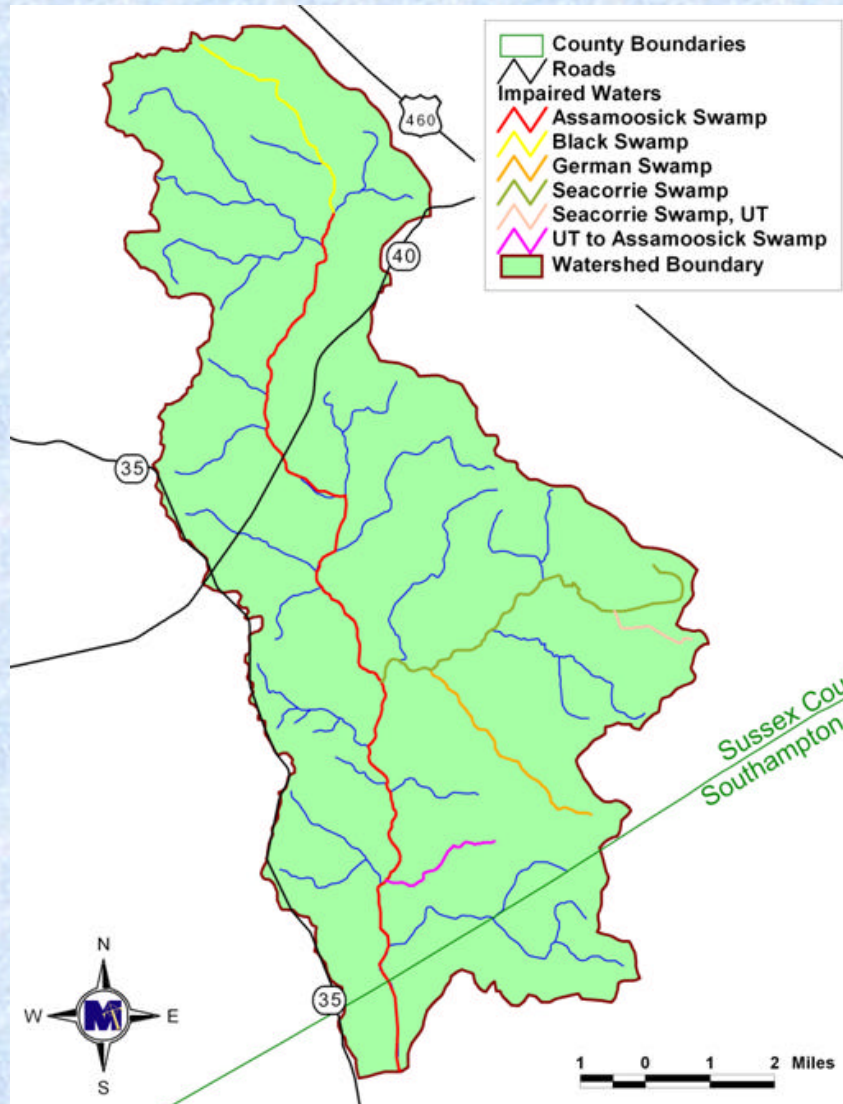


# **Bacteria TMDL Development for the Assamoosick Swamp & Tributaries**



**First Public  
Meetings**

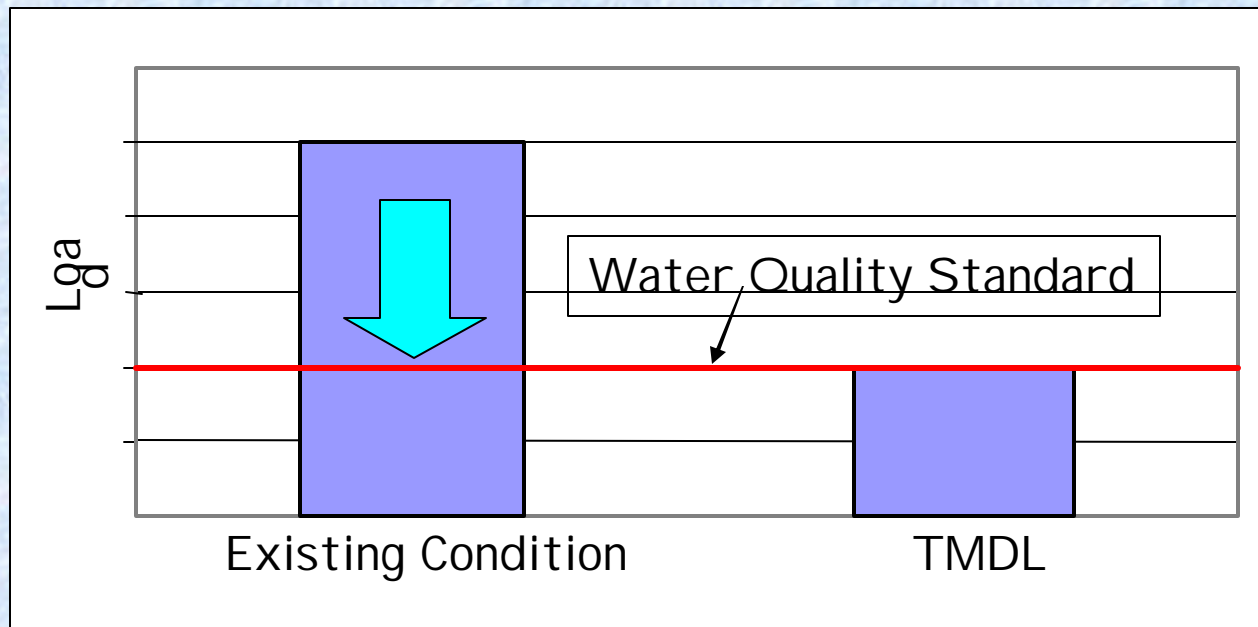
**December 2, 2009  
Sussex, VA**



# *What is a TMDL?*

**TMDL** = Total Maximum Daily Load = maximum amount of a pollutant that can exist in a waterbody without violating water quality standards (WQS)

**WQS** = numeric or narrative limits on pollutants that ensure the protection of human health and of aquatic life



Reducing existing bacteria load to the TMDL end point load is expected to restore water quality.



# *Why are TMDL studies necessary?*

- **TMDLs must be developed for water bodies that do not meet water quality standards for their designated uses (Clean Water Act 1972)**
  - Primary Contact (Swimming)
  - Public Water Supply
  - Aquatic Life
  - Fish Consumption
  - Shellfish Consumption
  - Wildlife
- **Waters are monitored by DEQ – those not meeting water quality standards are placed on an impaired waters list (303d list) published every 2 years as part of the “303d/305b Integrated Report”.**
- **As of 2008 ~1100 TMDLs are due in Virginia by 2020**

# *People involved in the Process:*

- ❑ Virginia Department of Health
- ❑ Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
- ❑ Contractor (Map Tech)
- ❑ Other State Agencies, Local Governments and Planning Districts
- ❑ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and other appropriate federal agencies
- ❑ Citizens groups, educational institutions environmental groups, & local business
- ❑ **YOU!**



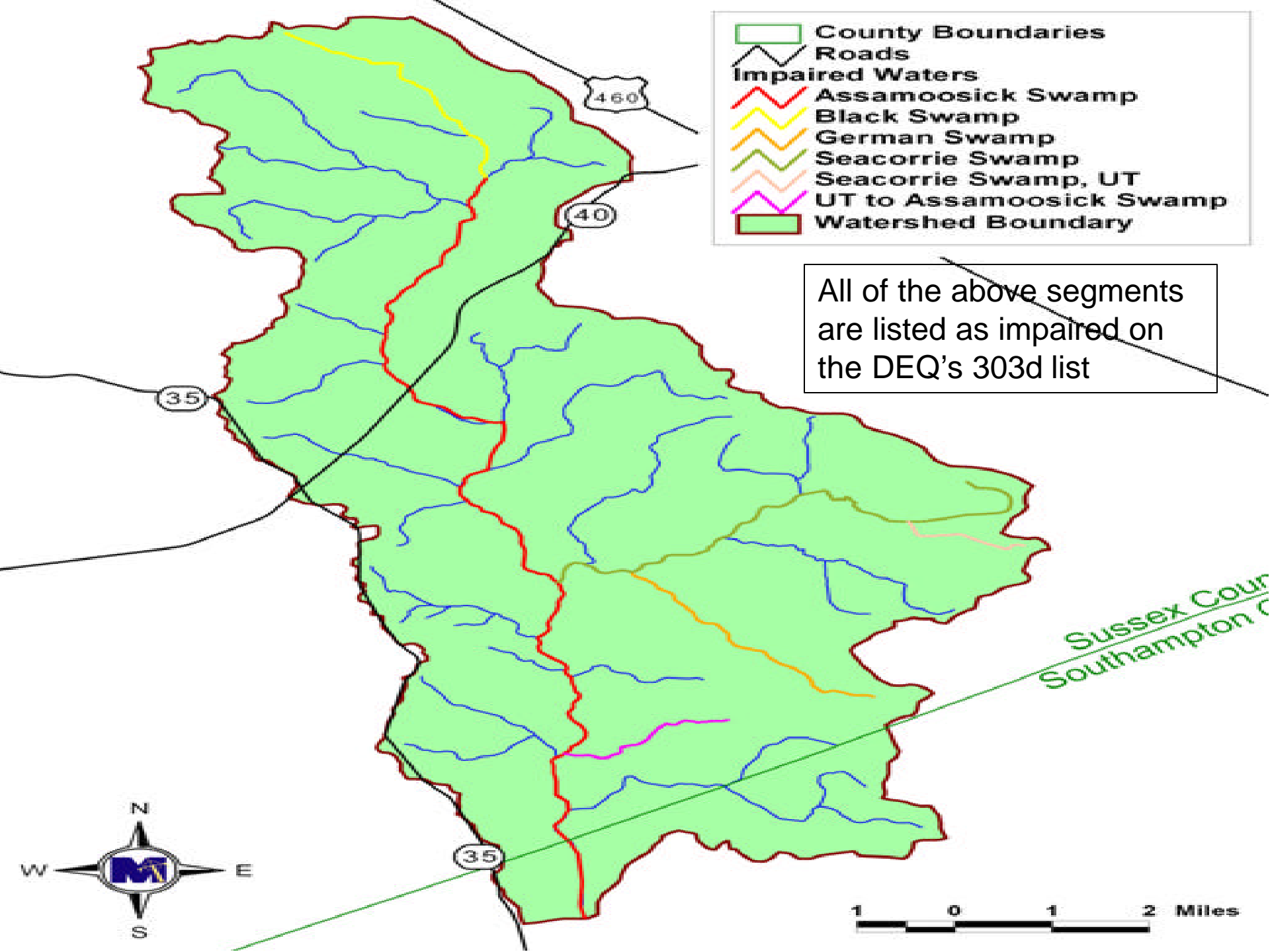


# *What information is used to develop a TMDL?*

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- ❑ Bacteria monitoring data
- ❑ Population estimates for humans, pets, wildlife, livestock
- ❑ Affected waters flow & volume
- ❑ Bacterial Source Tracking Data (BST)
- ❑ Land Use, Climate, & Tides
- ❑ DEQ permit data
- ❑ DEQ spill response and remediation

**So...why do a TMDL for the Assamoosick Watershed?....**



# Virginia's TMDL Development

- TMDL study
- Implementation Planning
- Implementation
- Post Monitor and Report on Progress



= = > \* \* Many opportunities for public  
input and participation! \* \*



# *How can you help?*

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## **PARTICIPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF TMDL AND IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING!**

- ❑ Attend TMDL development meetings & implementation planning meetings
- ❑ Verify our data contact us during the 30-day comment period
- ❑ Minimize runoff from property
  - install pervious surfaces vs. impervious surfaces
  - Rainbarrels, raingardens, etc.
- ❑ Don't feed wildlife!!! Educate your neighbors!
- ❑ Pick up after pets
- ❑ Maintain septic systems (5-yr pump-out)



# *Next Steps...*

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## □ **30 Day Public Comment Period**

**\*\*\*Ends January 4th, 2010\*\*\***

- Send comments with the name, address, and telephone number of the commenter.

**SEND Comments TO:** DEQ - Piedmont Regional Office  
Attn: Margaret Smigo  
4949-A Cox Road  
Glen Allen, VA 23060  
Margaret.Smigo@deq.virginia.gov

## □ **Final public meetings tentative for late February**

Presentations and other handouts available at:  
<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl/mtgppt.html>